

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NIC-01 ACDA-19 GAC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 SAJ-01 SSC-01 RSR-01 /116 W
----- 003516

P R 081118 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4296

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINR, CZ

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT MINISTERS

1. YUGOSLAV EMBASSY OFFICER TOLD US MAY 7 THAT CZECH MINISTER OF CULTURE BRUZEK WOULD DEFINITELY BE REPLACED BY MILAN KLUSAK, PRESENTLY DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SON- IN- LAW OF PRESIDENT SVOBODA. CHANGE IS SUPPOSED TO TAKE PLACE MAY 8 OR 9, AND BURZEK REPORTEDLY WILL BE NAMED AMBASSADOR, MOST LIKELY TO ONE OF " SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."

2. REPLACEMENT OF BRUZEK HAS BEEN RUMORED AT VARIOUS TIMES IN PAST MONTHS BUT WE HAD HEARD NOTHING ON SUBJECT RECENTLY UNTIL APRIL 28, WHEN WE HEARD THAT DURING PERIOD BETWEEN MAY 1 AND 9 SEVERAL CZECH REPUBLIC (BUT NOT FEDERAL OR SLOVAK REPUBLIC) MINISTERS WOULD SUPPOSEDLY BE REPLACED, INCLUDING BRUZEK, HEALTH MINISTER PROKOPEC, AND LABOR MINISTER HAMERNIK. ACCORDING TO SOURCE OF THIS REPORT, ONE POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT FOR BRUZEK WAS JOSEF POULIK, HEAD OF BRNO ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, WHO SO FAR AS WE KNOW HAS NO GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE.

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3. SIGNIFICANCE OF LLUSAK'S MOVE TO CULTURE MINISTRY
(ASSUMING YUGOSLAV REPORT IS TRUE) IS UNCLEAR.
ROMANIAN EMBOFF, WHOM YUGOSLAV TOLD OF REPORTED
CHANGE AT SAME TIME HE TOLD US, OPINED THAT KLUSAK
WOULD BE LESS " CONSERVATIVE" THAN BRUZEK. KLUSAK'S
EXPERIENCE UP TO NOW HAS BEEN IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
AND HE HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN DESCRIBED AS PARTICULARLY CLOSE
TO SOVIETS. ALL IN ALL, AS REPORTED IN PRAGUE A-62, TREND IN
CULTURAL POLICY SEEMS POINTED TOWARD SOME SLIGHT
RELAXATION, AND WE ASSUME NAMING OF NEW CZECH
REPUBLIC MINISTER WOULD BE AIMED AT FURTHERING
RATHER THAN REVERSING THIS TREND.
SHERER

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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